

24 August 1972

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The Honorable Emanuel Celler
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

My dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to tell you of my very serious concern over the effects upon this Agency of certain provisions of Title II of H.R. 12652. I believe that Chairman Hampton, of the Civil Service Commission, has written to you expressing his concern over the effects of this legislation on agencies of the Executive Branch in general, and I fully subscribe to the points I am told he made in his letter. In addition, however, I am especially disturbed over the impact this legislation would have on certain responsibilities and authorities relating to the protection of intelligence sources and methods.

This Agency's views on bills identical to this proposed legislation have been made known to the Chairman of the Senate Constitutional Rights Subcommittee and the Chairman and members of the House Employee Benefits Subcommittee, and I enclose for your information copies of the relevant correspondence. Chairman Hebert and Chairman Mahon, who as you know share congressional oversight responsibility for this Agency, have fully supported our position in this respect and have on an earlier occasion communicated their views to Chairman Dulski, of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

Because I am convinced that the legislation in question could have a major impact on the security discipline and operational effectiveness of this Agency, we would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with you at your convenience to explain in detail the reasons for our concern.

Sincerely,

Richard Helms
Director

Enclosures